



Docket No. JJM-346CIP1

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Szu-Min Lin et al. Confirmation No.: 9647
Appln. No. : 10/632,039 Art Unit : 1744
Filed : July 31, 2003 Examiner : K. Joyner
Title : INTEGRATED WASHING AND STERILIZATION PROCESS

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(Name of applicant, assignee, or Registered Representative)

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(Signature)

January 16, 2007

(Date of Signature)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE

Dear Sir:

This paper is filed responsive to the Office Action mailed September 14, 2006. Claims 1 to 8 are pending in the application. Claims 1 and 6 to 8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over the Fry et al. U.S. Patent No. 3,893,843 in view of the Addy et al. U.S. Patent No. 5,961,921. Claim 2 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Fry et al., Addy et al. and the Langford U.S. Patent No. 5,711,921. Claim 3 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Fry et al., Addy et al. and the Mariotti U.S. Patent No. 5,882,589. Claims 4 and 5 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Fry et al., Addy et al. and the McConnell et al. U.S. Patent No. 4,917,123. Claims 1 and 4 to 8 stand rejected on the ground of obviousness type double patenting over claims 16, 21 and 24 of U.S.